


March 22, 1996

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM:   
Alan Samuels, Director  
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Conditions that will allow a **provider-wide partial exception** to the requirements of **Regulation 61-17, Standards for Licensing Nursing Homes, Section D.(3)(c)**.

Regulation 61-17, Standards for Licensing Nursing Homes, Section D.(3)(c), requires in part, "Within one month prior to admission all first time residents shall have a physical examination including a two-step tuberculin skin test unless they have been documented to have been a previously positive reactor...In the institutional nursing home setting, residents admitted from other parts of that institutional campus who have had TB screening done which meets the requirements outlined in this section and which was done within the last six months, will not be required to undergo additional initial screening."

We have determined that an alternative standard to the institutional campus provisions of Regulation 61-17, Section D.(3)(c), will be acceptable. Institutional nursing homes (i.e., those located within the retirement community setting) shall meet either the standards outlined in Regulation 61-17, Section D.(3)(c), or in the alternative:

Residents admitted from other parts of that particular institutional campus who have had TB screening done which meets the requirements outlined in this section (e.g., two-step PPD) and which was done within the last six months, will not be required to undergo additional initial screening. Furthermore, residents admitted from other parts of that institutional campus who have had TB screening done which meets the requirements outlined in this section, will not be required to undergo additional screening prior to being admitted. However, residents admitted in this fashion and whose TB screening was done more than six months prior to admission shall undergo a single step TB skin test which shall be completed within the first week after being admitted from other parts of that institutional campus.

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The standards in Regulation 61-17, Section D.(3)(c), will be enforced during inspections, as required either by the regulation or the provider-wide exception. This exception applies to any institutional nursing home licensed by the Department. It relates solely to South Carolina licensing standards. Any adverse condition(s) that may be related to this exception may result in revocation of the exception by the Department.

If there are any questions, you may call (803) 737-7202.

AS:DG:dg

cc Douglas E. Bryant  
Alice Truluck  
Carol Pozsik

Elaine E. Guyton, SCANPHA  
J. Randall Lee, SCHCA  
Louetta A. Slice, SCNHA